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MARK HAMILL'S FINALLY A STAR

Now on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, here's all the reasons to love him. 18

What's for lunch at Walnut Street Cafe. 20-21

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WHO'S TO BLAME?

Two women are facing criminal charges two years after the death of their foster child, 10-year-old Ethan Okula, but a defense attorney claims the pair is being scapegoated. 4

COURTESY OF THE OKULA FAMILY

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SAM NEWHOUSE, REPORTER

Ten-year-old foster kid Ethan Okula died in 2016 from an intestinal blockage, spending his last hours in agony while surrounded by purported caretakers — school nurses, staff and foster parents — who failed to seek medical care until it was too late. In the wake of reforms at DHS and a civil lawsuit, Ethan's foster mother and her wife have now been hit with involuntary manslaughter charges. Read more on page 4 and at **metrophilly.us**.

HOUSE GOP FINDS NO EVIDENCE OF COLLUSION

1 House Intelligence Committee Republicans said on Monday the panel had finished conducting interviews in its investigation of Russia and the 2016 U.S. election, and found no collusion between President Donald Trump's associates and Moscow's efforts to influence the campaign. "We have found no evidence of collusion, coordination or conspiracy between the Trump campaign and the Russians," committee Republicans said as they released an overview of their probe. Rep. Mike Conaway, who has led the panel's investigation, said the panel had finished the interview phase of its probe. "You never know what you never know, but we found no reason to think that there's something we're missing in this regard. We've talked to everybody we think we need to talk to," Conaway said in an interview on Fox News Channel.

'HIGHLY LIKELY' RUSSIA BEHIND SPY ATTACK: UK

2 British Prime Minister Theresa May said on Monday it was "highly likely" that Moscow was responsible for the poisoning in England of Russian former double agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter using a military-grade nerve agent. May told parliament that either the Russian state was directly responsible for the poisoning or it had allowed the nerve agent to get into the hands of others. London has given Russia until Wednesday to explain its use. British officials identified the substance as part of the Novichok group of nerve agents which were developed by the Soviet military during the 1970s and 1980s, May said. "Should there be no credible response, we will conclude that this action amounts to an unlawful use of force by the Russian state against the United Kingdom," May said, calling the attack a "reckless and despicable act."

PLANE CRASH IN KATHMANDU

3 Nepali rescuers worked around the wreckage of an airplane that crashed at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal, on Monday. At least 49 passengers were killed after a passenger aircraft of a Bangladeshi airline crashed while landing at the airport.

GETTY IMAGES

STORMY DANIELS OFFERS TO RETURN 'HUSH MONEY'

4 The adult-film actress who claims she had an affair with Donald Trump before he became president offered on Monday to return $130,000 that Trump's lawyer paid her in what she said was hush money to remain silent. Stephanie Clifford, who uses the stage name Stormy Daniels, said the affair with Trump began in 2006. Trump denied he had an affair with Clifford. Clifford proposed on Monday that she be allowed to discuss her alleged affair with the president after repaying the money. "This is an extremely fair offer," her attorney, Michael Avenatti, said. "It accomplishes the goal of allowing the American people to decide who is telling the truth after hearing both sides." The alleged affair threatens to erode Trump's support among evangelical voters. ***Read more on Stormy Daniels on page 10.***

WEB INVENTOR: BIG TECH MUST BE REGULATED

5 The inventor of the world-wide web, Tim Berners-Lee, called on Monday for powerful internet platforms and social media companies to be regulated to prevent the internet from being "weaponized at scale." The British computer scientist, in an open letter, said a "new set of gatekeepers" was now dominant, controling the spread of ideas and opinions. "The fact that power is concentrated among so few companies has made it possible to weaponize the web at scale," he wrote. "In recent years, we've seen conspiracy theories trend on social media platforms, fake Twitter and Facebook accounts stoke social tensions, external actors interfere in elections and criminals steal troves of personal data." The intervention by the 62-year-old MIT professor comes as some European governments turn to legislation to curb "fake" news and hate speech.

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Couple who left foster kid to die on couch charged

The two women in charge of caring for Ethan Okula, who stopped breathing on their couch after being sent home from school, are now facing criminal charges.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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Two women who allegedly didn't seek medical attention for a 10-year-old boy after he was sent home from school with severe pain until he had stopped breathing are now facing criminal charges.

Denise Alston, 55, and her wife Carol Fletcher, 53, were charged on Feb. 1 with involuntary manslaughter, conspiracy and endangering the welfare of children related to the death of Ethan Okula.

Ethan died on Feb. 10, 2016, in their home after being sent home from Julia De Burgos Elementary in North Philly with severe stomach pain. Ethan had a gastric condition, and his death was caused by intestinal blockage.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services' (DHS) Act 33 investigation into Ethan's death, after he fell ill at school, vomiting and defecating, the school called his foster mother, Alston, around 9:38 a.m. telling them he needed to be picked up.

Alston reportedly told the school she was busy at work, and instead that her wife, Fletcher, would pick Ethan up. Fletcher arrived between noon and 1 p.m., the state's Act 33 team, which investigates the death of all children in state custody, reported.

"The perpetrator asserted that the child's current behavior and claim of stomach and abdominal pain was a habitual occurrence which did not warrant medical attention and that the child would be taken home and sent to his room," the state's report said. "The alleged perpetrator used profanity when stating that she did not want the child, who had reportedly had a bowel accident, to be in her car. School personnel provided her with a trash bag to put on the seat of her car."

At home, Ethan was reportedly left on a couch, where around 7 p.m. Alston and Fletcher noticed he was not breathing and called 911. Ethan "was revived briefly at the hospital, but was later pronounced dead," the state report said.

Fletcher's defense lawyer, Troy Crichton, called the prosecution a "witch hunt" and said the women are being "scapegoated," despite the fact that child welfare agencies never told them Ethan had a stomach condition.

"The government is on a witch hunt to pin this on somebody, when it's the government that failed Ethan," Crichton said. "The foster mom, Denise Alton, didn't even know this kid had any condition, because DHS failed to tell her, and then falsified reports to cover it up."

State investigators found that, in addition to the foster parents reportedly not fully understanding Ethan's gastric condition that caused his death, that the school nurse, who was later fired, should have noted abdominal scarring and called 911.

"I can tell you we firmly believe that the agencies are responsible for Ethan's death."

Attorney Nadeem Bezar

Four Philly DHS social workers involved in Ethan's case reportedly lost their jobs, out of 13 let go in 2016 due to alleged connections to document falsification, the Inquirer reported.

Attorney Nadeem Bezar has filed a lawsuit against NET, claiming they and DHS placed Ethan with a foster mother without making her aware of his medical issues.

Ethan's death prompted a wave of reform at Philly DHS. The agency said it has increased compensation for foster parents, now holds monthly meetings with resource parents, providers, and older youth "to support excellent parenting in foster care," communications more with the School District, is recruiting new foster parents and has decreased social worker caseloads to a current average of about 11 cases per social worker.

Ethan Okula died at age 10 after falling sick while in school.
COURTESY OF THE OKULA FAMILY

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Former Philly anti-gun violence activist running for Congress

Shira Goodman, the former executive director of CeaseFire PA, is running for Congress. COURTESY OF THE GOODMAN CAMPAIGN

Shira Goodman spent the last six years as executive director of CeaseFire PA, one of the state's most visible anti-gun violence organizations.

But she's been aware of the country's problem with guns for longer than that.

"It's been almost 20 years since Columbine, and I remember exactly where I was: I was on I-95, driving between Baltimore and Philadelphia, and I couldn't stop listening," Goodman told Metro. "I am horrified that we are still having school shootings five-plus years since Sandy Hook. We're still having this problem no other country would tolerate."

Now, Goodman, 47, a Montco resident, is looking for a new way to do something about it: in Washington D.C. Last month, just prior to the Parkland shooting, she announced that she would step down from her position at CeaseFire to run in the Democratic primary in May for U.S. Representative standing for the residents of Pennsylvania's newly remapped 4th district in Washington, D.C.

"I decided I might be able to do more on this and other issues I care about in a new role," Goodman said, who noted she sees everyday gun violence as just as serious a problem as high-profile mass shootings.

"Although I've been focused on a single issue, I don't think that I'm a single-issue candidate," she said.

Goodman isn't just running as a gun control candidate. But her expertise in the area, like having personally obtained a concealed-carry permit to understand the process and being able to explain what a bump stock actually is, could make her stand out in the Capitol.

"We need a whole comprehensive rethinking of how we deal with guns in this country," she said. "Other developed, industrial nations have the same levels of crime, the same levels of mental illness, the same level drug problems, the same video games and movies, and they just don't have the same levels of shootings and gun violence. It's access to guns."

Goodman believes the 2nd Amendment, within the Supreme Court's interpretation in its 2008 Heller decision, can coexist with and allow for a wide range of new possible regulations to protect public safety, like tracking purchases of guns and ammo.

"We can do things that don't overly burden the rights of law-abiding gun owners but can keep guns out of hands of people who shouldn't have them," she said. "If you buy too much Sudafed, bells and whistles go off. … The Las Vegas shooter buys 50 rifles in a year, thousands of rounds of ammunition, that doesn't get reported anywhere. Should we talk about that? I'm not even saying you can't do it, but should it get flagged somewhere?"

She responded to skepticism about new gun control legislation by pointing to the successful federal bans on machine guns and silencers.

"Except in movies, bad guys don't have machine guns and silencers," she said. "Hunters in Pennsylvania who want silencers can still get them, they just have to wait a little longer. … You know who doesn't have them? Guys on the corner who are in rival drug gangs."

As far as political opposition, Goodman said she can talk to "the other side." But Firearms Owners Against Crime president Kim Stolfer disagreed.

"A Congressman's first duty is to protect our constitutional rights. Shira is unqualified in that regard, because she is a decided opponent of the 2nd Amendment," Stolfer said. "She has an unwillingness to keep an open mind on what is going to work as far as stopping criminals. … She will be a demagogue in this office, she will not protect citizens' rights."

Whether Goodman can convince voters she would deserve a spot in Congress remains to be seen, but if her experience working in the life-and-death arena of gun violence makes her as driven of a candidate as she was an activist, she could end up making waves in Washington.

"I've met a lot of people who lost spouses or children to gun violence, and I feel like I'm working for them, as well as working to keep other families from knowing their pain," she said. "It's really hard, once you get into this problem, to leave it."

SAM NEWHOUSE

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Philly's Mike Jerrick was roasted on "Last Week Tonight" during a segment highlighting local news stations' coverage of International Women's Day. LAST WEEK TONIGHT/HBO

Mike Jerrick gets roasted by John Oliver on 'Last Week Tonight'

"That is gross."

JENNIFER LOGUE
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Not everyone was a fan of Mike Jerrick's approach to International Women's Day last Thursday, especially host of "Last Week Tonight," John Oliver.

On Sunday night's show, the English comedian roasted Jerrick in a segment highlighting brands and local news stations that missed the mark in honoring women on March 8.

In the "Good Day" segment last week, Jerrick made more than one faux pas.

As his co-host, Alex Holley sits at her desk with flowers for the holiday, Jerrick says: "What's the deal? Why do you need your own day?"

Judging by the tone of his voice, it was hard to tell if he was just joking around or legitimately annoyed by International Women's Day.

Shortly after that, Holley takes a bite from her Pop-Tart and Jerrick says, "How do you keep your girlish figure?"

Yikes. Most women have heard that from a co-worker before, but not on live television.

Finally, the most cringeworthy moment was when Mike displays a lifelike doll of Holley on the air, telling viewers to pay careful attention to the mic pack, which is clipped into the doll's back pocket.

Holley asks, "What do you do with this doll that you have at home?"

Jerrick responds, "I keep it by my bedside so when I wake up in the morning, I can see you."

Wow. There are no words.

Oliver reacts to the bit by saying, "That is gross."

He adds, "I feel like we should all take a shower after that but Mike Jerrick would hear that and say, 'Noice.'"

NORTH KOREA

White House expects North Korea summit to happen despite Pyongyang's silence

The White House said on Monday it fully expects an unprecedented meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to take place, even though Pyongyang has yet to comment publicly on the possibility.

A South Korean delegation that visited North Korea last week said North Korean leader Kim Jong Un expressed a wish to meet Trump and South Korea's president to discuss denuclearisation. North Korean media has reported the South Korean visit, but no details of the talks.

Asked if the North Korean silence meant there was a chance the meeting between Trump and Kim would not take place, White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said:

"We fully expect that it will. The offer was made and we've accepted. North Korea made several promises and we hope that they would stick to those promises and if so the meeting will go on as planned.

"We are continuing to prepare on a number of levels," she told a regular briefing.Earlier, South Korea said North Korea's silence on summits with both the United States and South Korea was probably due to caution in preparing for the meetings, while U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Washington expected to hear directly from Pyongyang.

"It's very early stages. We've not heard anything directly back from North Korea but we expect to hear something directly from them," Tillerson said during a visit to Nigeria.

Tillerson, who has cut short his first trip to Africa to return to Washington on Tuesday, did not elaborate. REUTERS

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The East Coast is expecting another winter storm this week. GETTY IMAGES

Northeast braces for third powerful storm in two weeks

Blizzard conditions are possible and power outages are a threat.

The third nor'easter to hit parts of the U.S. northeast in two weeks was expected to start late on Monday and Amtrak said it would suspend service on Tuesday between Boston and New York, as the storm could bring high winds, a foot or more of snow and power outages.

"This storm won't be as widespread as before," said Marc Chenard, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Maryland. "It'll hit New England the hardest."

The railroad said the service suspension would last until at least 11 a.m. EDT on Tuesday and that service would resume when weather conditions allowed. The storm was expected to continue into Tuesday. Amtrak said it would also cancel some trains running from New York to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Boston declared a snow emergency and announced a parking ban beginning on Monday at 7 p.m on major roads. The city said Boston Public Schools, libraries and other city services would be closed on Tuesday.

The National Weather Service said parts of Massachusetts could get up to 18 inches of snow and issued a coastal flood warning.

Certain storms are classified as nor'easters because their strong winds typically are from the northeast, and they tend to occur most frequently and most violently between September and April along North America's East Coast, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Some nor'easters carry hurricane-force winds.

Storms on March 2 and 7 left at least nine people dead across the region, some two million homes and businesses without power, and flooding in the streets of Boston.

Other areas that were severely affected in the previous two storms, including parts of New York, New Jersey and Maryland will see only 1 to 4 inches of snow this time around, Chenard said.

Blizzard conditions are possible and power outages are a threat for parts of Rhode Island, eastern Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine, which are under the Winter Storm Watch from Monday evening to Tuesday afternoon, he said.

"Coastal areas could see 40 or 50 mph winds," he said. "The snow will be wet. Combined with the wind, it presents a serious risk of power outages." REUTERS

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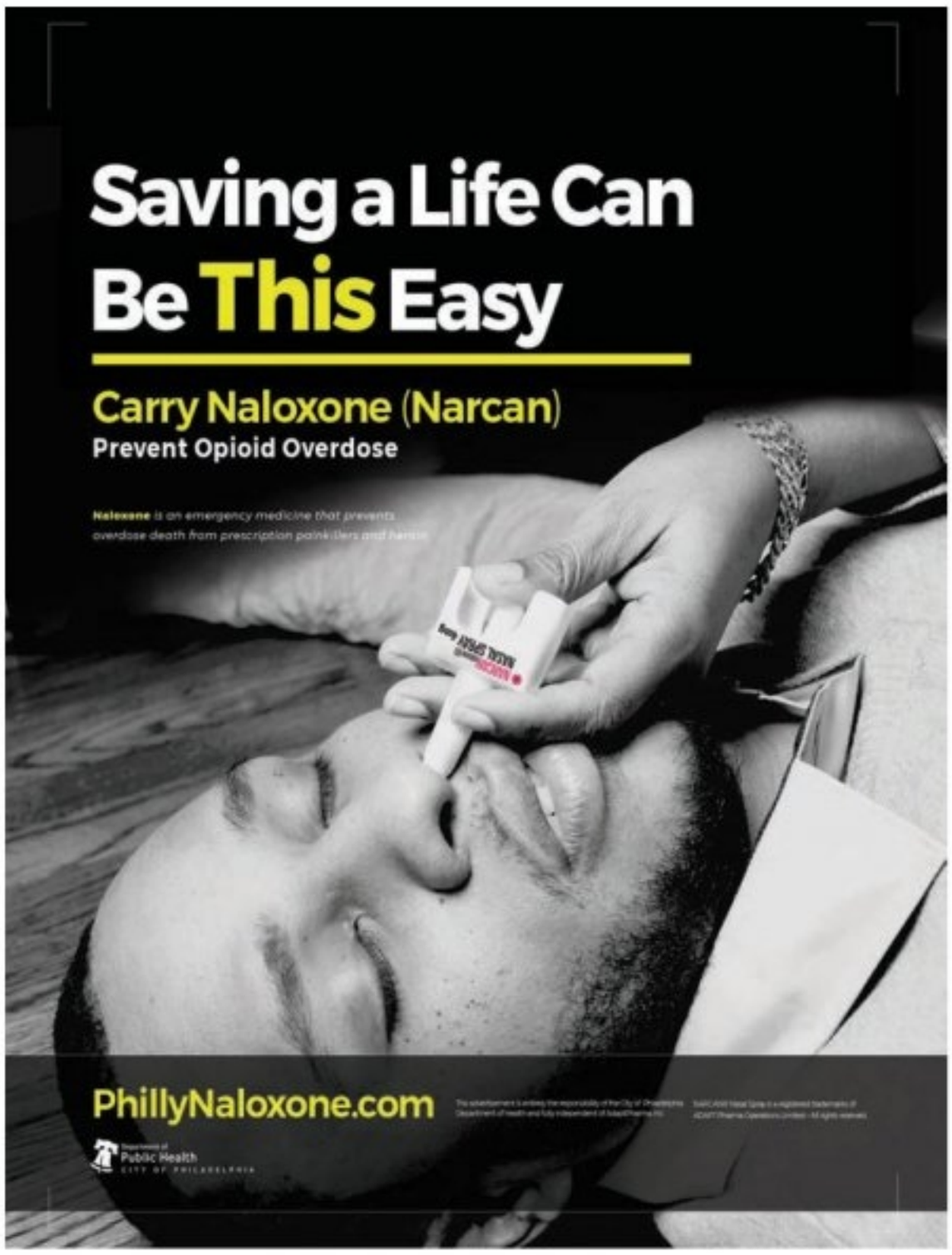


Stormy Daniels' NDA mentioned 'paternity' and 'alleged children'

Say what now?

MICHAEL MARTIN
letters@metro.us

In an interview with InTouch Weekly published in 2011, Stormy Daniels said that Trump never used a condom during their tryst. GETTY IMAGES

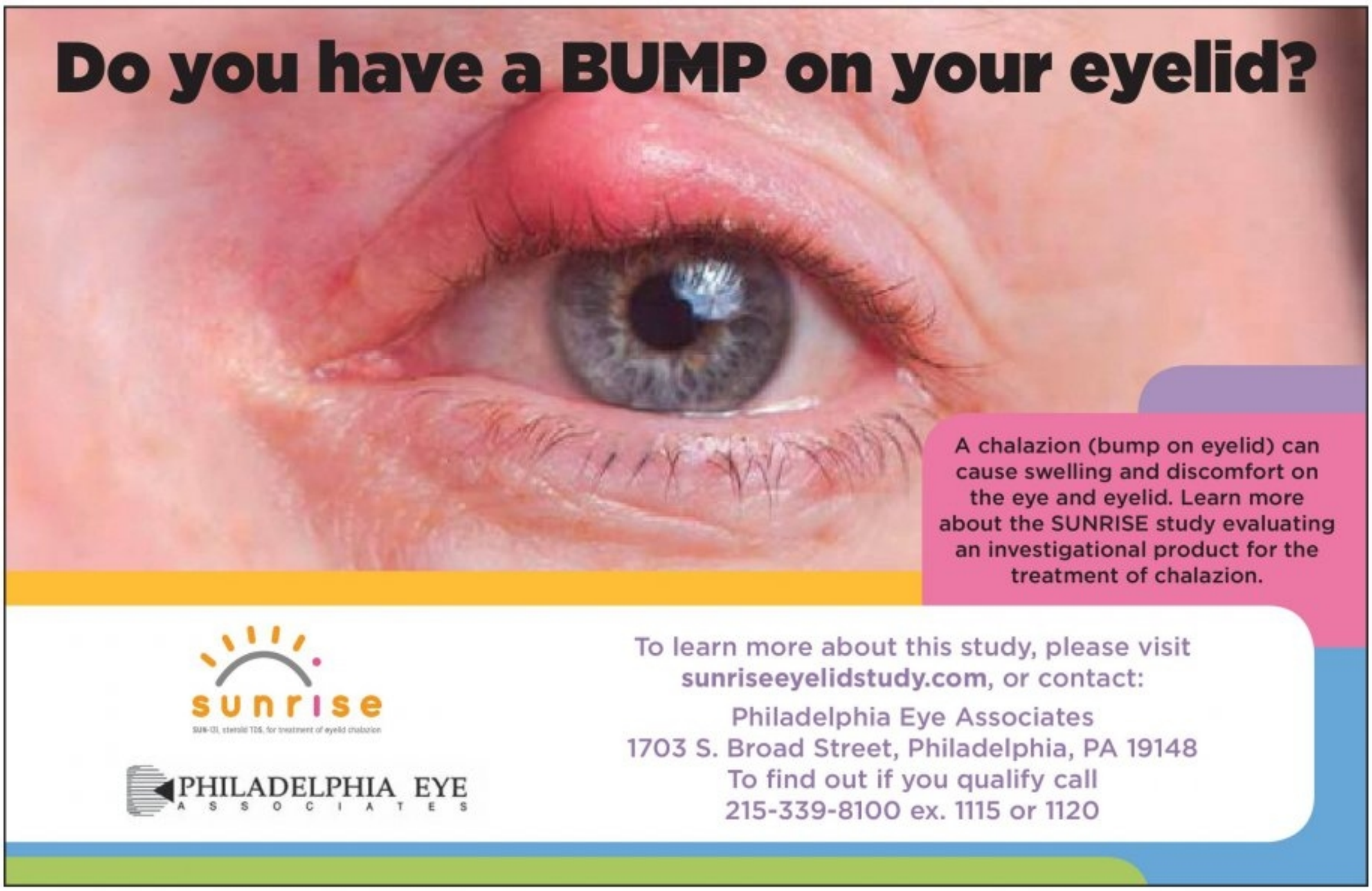
The nondisclosure form signed by porn star Stormy Daniels — which prevents her from talking publicly about her alleged affair with President Donald Trump — mentions "paternity" and "alleged children," which has led many to ask, "Uh, what?"

Daniels wants to be able to reply. She has sued Trump, claiming the NDA form is invalid because he didn't sign it. Signifying that the suit is perhaps not on the firmest legal footing, today Daniels's lawyer says that Daniels is willing to pay back the $130,000 Trump's lawyer paid her days before the 2016 election to keep quiet.

That payment, first reported by the Wall Street Journal in January, has raised the specter of a misuse of campaign funds by Trump's team. Daniels lawsuit against Trump led to the public release of the nondisclosure form.

But about that baby elephant in the room: Daniels' attorney Michael Avenetti said Friday that the inclusion of the words "paternity" and "alleged children" in the contract was boilerplate language, and that Daniels did not bear Trump's child and did not know of any children Trump was trying to keep secret: "Absolutely not. No," Avenetti told The Wrap.

In an interview with InTouch Weekly published in 2011, Daniels said that Trump never used a condom during their tryst, which began at an event at a Trump golf club in 2006 and spanned a few years. At that time, the future president was married to Melania Trump, and their son, Barron, was a newborn.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Special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation has continued to inch closer to President Trump. GETTY IMAGES

Report: Trump recruits an impeachment lawyer for his legal team

The president met with the attorney who represented Bill Clinton during impeachment proceedings, a new report says.

MICHAEL MARTIN
letters@metro.us

President Trump has his eye on the exit, and he's worried a dumpster fire may be blocking it.

On Saturday, The New York Times reported that Trump has met with the lawyer who defended Bill Clinton during impeachment proceedings, and he's bringing the veteran attorney onto his legal team to deal with Robert Mueller's special-counsel investigation.

If Emmett Flood comes aboard, he would help guide Trump's daily dealings with the Justice Department. The scenario would not involve Trump's current lawyer Ty Cobb leaving. The Times reported that Trump's meeting with Flood doesn't reflect new concerns about the investigation but rather acceptance that it won't be ending anytime soon.

A hitch: Trump has long wanted Flood on his legal team, but the attorney has been reluctant. Last summer, Flood turned down an invitation to represent Trump, the "Times" said, and it's not clear what has changed, if anything.

Mueller's investigation continues to inch closer to the president. Last week, it was reported that a new cooperating witness told Mueller about a secret meeting in the Seychelles, which included representatives of Trump and Russian Vladimir Putin and was intended to open a back-channel between the Trump transition team and Russia. Mueller is investigating if any money or assistance changed hands, which would be illegal. It would almost certainly — to the extent anything can be certain these days — end Trump's presidency.

On Sunday, Trump denied the Times story, tweeting, "The Failing New York Times purposely wrote a false story stating that I am unhappy with my legal team on the Russia case and am going to add another lawyer to help out. Wrong. I am VERY happy with my lawyers, John Dowd, Ty Cobb and Jay Sekulow. They are doing a great job."

But Trump did not deny that he might add Flood to his legal team.

"I am VERY happy with my lawyers. ... They are doing a great job."

President Trump, on Twitter

The president also tweeted that reporter Maggie Haberman is a "Hillary flunky" and "knows nothing about me and is not given access." The second assertion has been refuted by multiple accounts of Haberman getting exclusive access, with Trump calling her directly to give her scoops. On Twitter, Haberman is frequently accused of being too soft on the administration in her reporting, and for debating Trump detractors on the social network. Haberman's co-author on the piece, Michael Schmidt, was excoriated by the same crowd for not challenging Trump enough during an impromptu 30-minute interview over the holidays.

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New study: Women wearing heavy makeup look less like leaders

The results of this study revealed that both male and female participants perceived women with a "social night out" look as having poorer leadership skills than those who were fresh-faced. GETTY IMAGES

A new makeup study from Dundee, Scotland's Abertay University suggests that women who go without makeup are seen as "better leaders" than those who paint their features heavily.

Here's how the study worked: 168 respondents were asked to assess which woman in a pair of two images — one without makeup, one with — was a "better leader" and were asked to dictate "how much better" that leader was than the other.

The makeup was styled for a "social night out" and was applied to women's faces by computer software as either a "50 percent" or "100 percent" makeover (a little bit of makeup vs. a lot). In each of the 16 image matchups, one of the women was always makeup-less. As for the woman in the pair who donned makeup, eight had the 50 percent makeover and the other eight had the 100 percent makeover.

The results of this makeup study revealed that both male and female participants perceived the women with "social night out" look (100 percent makeover) as having poorer leadership skills than those who were fresh-faced.

In comparison, the women who had some makeup applied to their faces (50 percent makeover) were perceived as being better leaders than their fresh-faced counterparts.

"Regardless of the participant's sex or ethnicity, makeup used for a social night out had a negative effect on perceptions of women's leadership ability," the makeup study, conducted by researchers Esther James and Shauny Jenkins and led by Dr. Christopher Watkins, reads. But the study also suggests that "a subtle enhancement in facial coloration via makeup may have positive effects on how women are evaluated within the business environment."

"The important thing to bear in mind with this is that further work could look at different styles of makeup and whether manipulating the style of makeup leads to different findings (e.g., a more professional look)," Dr. Watkins told Metro. "The research isn't intended to promote a value judgment — what an individual woman is comfortable with doing is up to her — more just to demonstrate what people, on average, may say or do when you ask them to indicate their first impressions of other people."

Stop and consider this: Would you really wear "going out" makeup to work? Think about it. Would you spend as much time getting ready for a night at 1 Oak as you would prepping to ride an office-bound A train?

It depends on the person, of course. One Metro editor said she'd wear "going out" makeup to work if it were a special occasion, and that she normally wears a modest amount because of the confidence it brings her, stating, "I think it's a lovely way to express myself."

Similarly, a Metro designer said that she doesn't have enough time to apply "going out" makeup before she leaves for work, but without at least a "natural look," she feels like she appears "more tired" and feels more self-conscious.

In fact, a 2017 study conducted by Harvard Medical School explored what's known as the "lipstick effect," in which wearing makeup can give women a confidence boost and actually make them feel smarter.

Here's the bottom line though: Regardless of the amount of makeup you have on, as a Wonder Woman of society, wear your lipstick — or bare-lipped — smile to the office and do the damn thing. SAM BRODSKY

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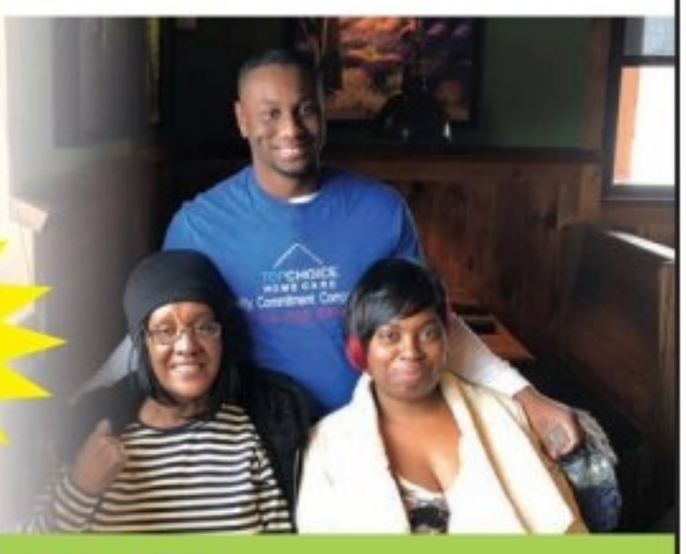

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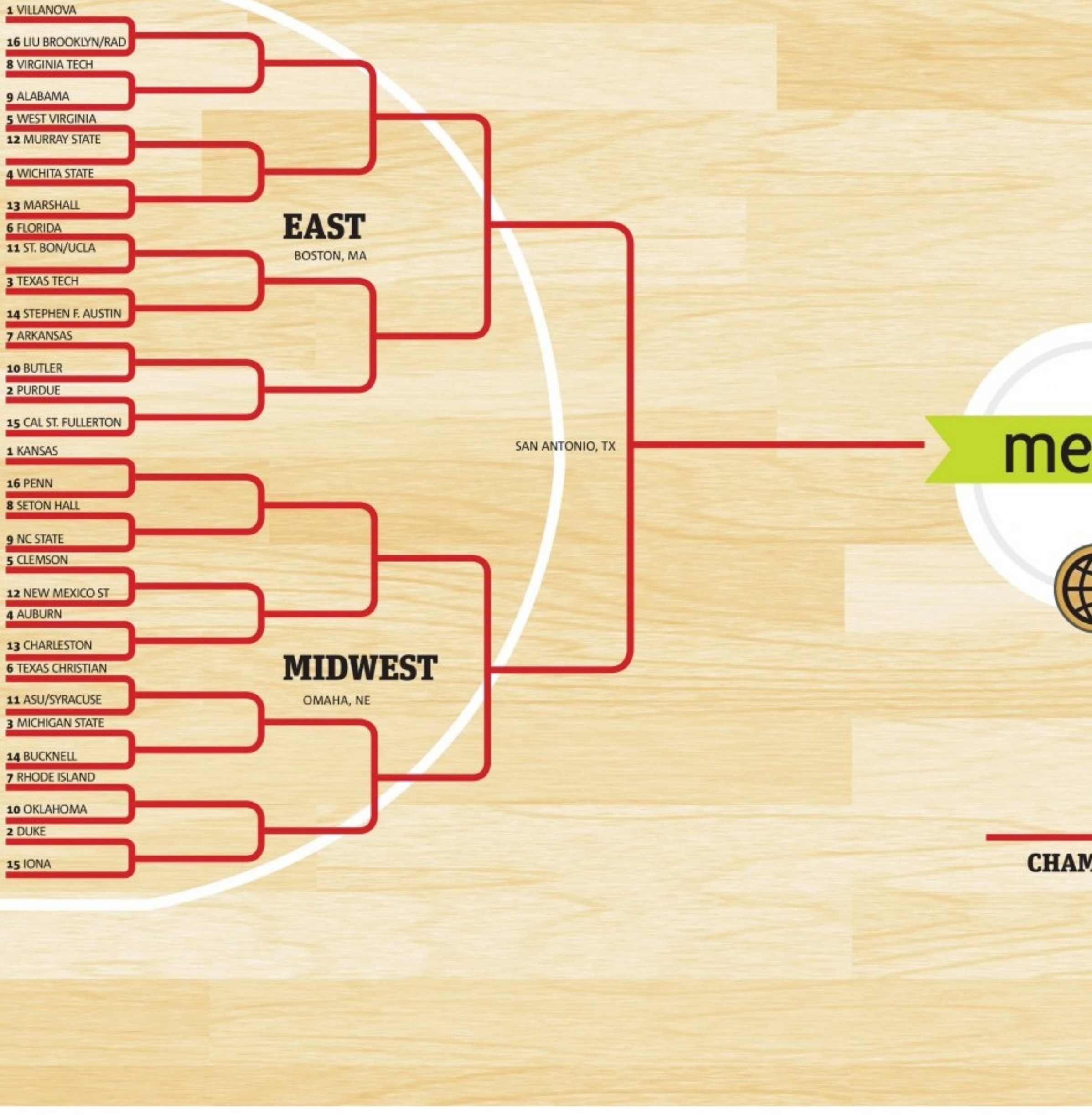

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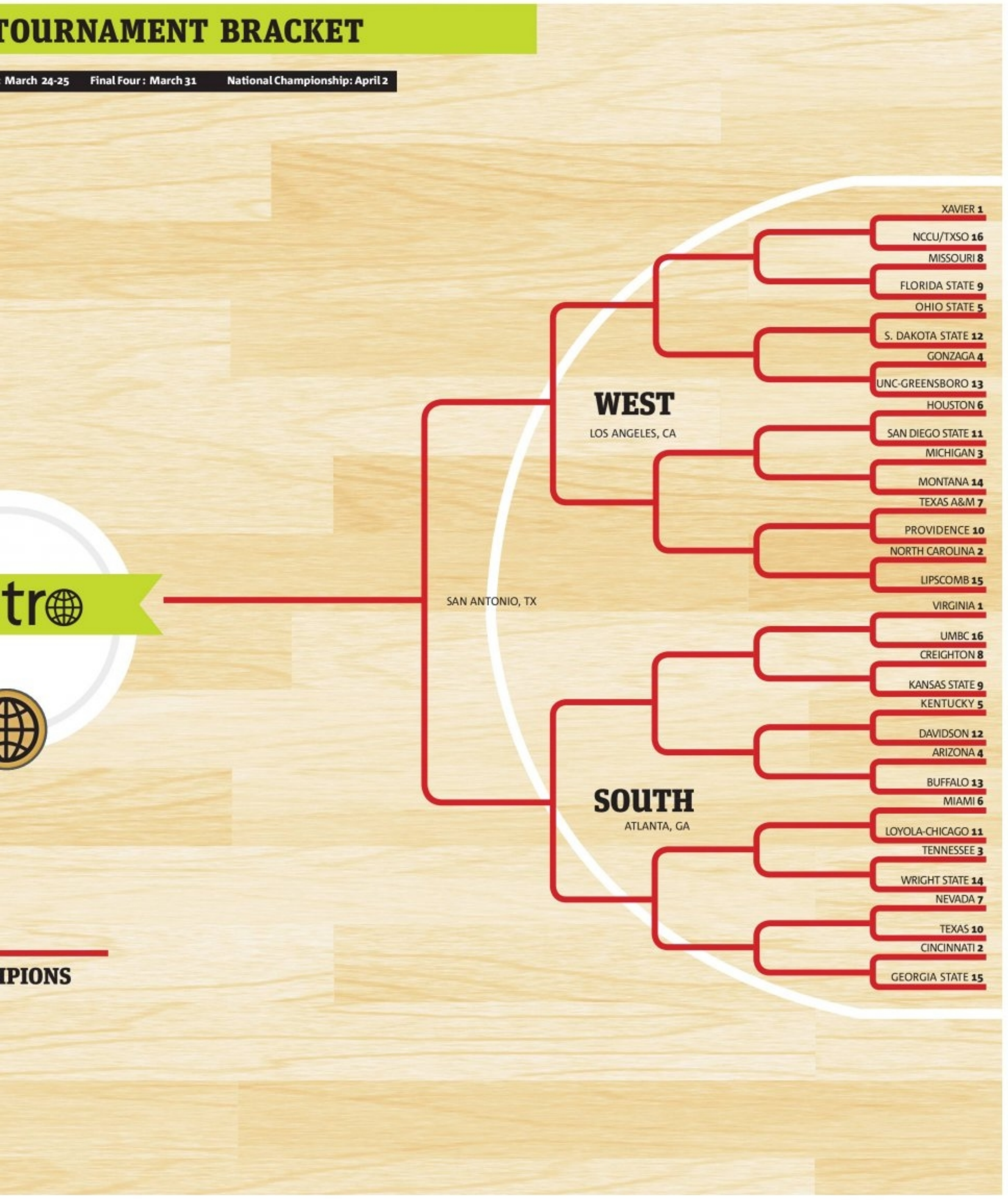

In bow to NRA, Trump throws gun purchase age to states, courts

The administration's plan also includes training teachers to carry guns in schools, an idea already in place in some states and backed by the powerful gun lobby.

President Donald Trump said on Monday he put off action on raising the minimum age for gun purchases, one of several measures he had backed after the latest U.S. school shooting but skirted after heavy opposition from gun rights groups.

The proposal to raise the minimum age for buying guns from 18 to 21 was not part of a modest set of Trump administration school safety plans announced on Sunday and which were closely aligned with National Rifle Association (NRA) positions.

"On 18 to 21 age limits, watching court cases and rulings before acting. States are making this decision. Things are moving rapidly on this, but not much political support (to put it mildly)," Trump wrote on Twitter.

Florida last week adopted new gun regulations, triggering a federal lawsuit from the NRA to block raising the minimum age for buying long guns.

The Republican president, who championed gun rights during his 2016 campaign, vowed to take action to prevent school shootings after a gunman killed 17 students and faculty at a high school in Parkland, Florida, on Feb. 14.

The shootings reignited fierce debate in the United States, and Trump stunned members of Congress during White House meetings by endorsing proposals long opposed by his fellow Republicans and accusing lawmakers of being afraid of the NRA.

However, the measures proposed by the White House on Sunday night were weaker than some of the more sweeping changes Trump had embraced during his televised meetings on the issue.

Trump backs legislation aimed at providing more data for the background check system: a database of people who are not legally allowed to buy guns. But he did not endorse a broader proposal that would close loopholes in existing law by requiring background checks for guns bought at gun shows or arranged

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The NRA did not return a request for comment on the president's proposals on Monday.

The top Democrats in Congress accused Trump of caving to the NRA and vowed to keep pushing for tougher gun measures.

The president has backed away from earlier statements on gun control. GETTY IMAGES

"The families and students suffering from the heartbreak of gun violence deserve real leadership, not a White House that cravenly tiptoes around the NRA," House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi said in a statement.

It was not clear how quickly Congress would move on the issue. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Republican, has not scheduled debate for any gun-related bills.

The NRA-backed background check data bill, which now has a supermajority of co-sponsors, is pending in the Senate. With more than 60 co-sponsors in the 100-member chamber, individual senators would have a hard time slowing or blocking its passage if it were brought up for debate.

The White House put off some of the more controversial proposals, including raising the minimum purchase age, for further study by a new commission led by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

Asked why the age limit proposal was dropped from the administration plan, DeVos told NBC's "Today" show that the plan was the first step in a lengthy process.

"Everything is on the table," she said on Monday.

The Justice Department will also provide an unspecified amount of grants to states that want to train teachers to carry guns in school.

In Congress, the House of Representatives on Wednesday is expected to debate a bill that would invest $50 million a year to help education and law enforcement officials reduce the chances of gun violence at schools.

The bill would help officials create teams to better detect plans for violent acts before they occur and implement anonymous reporting systems for students.

On Saturday, the Justice Department submitted a regulation to ban bump stocks — devices that turn semiautomatic rifles into fully automatic machine guns — that would not require congressional approval. Some gun control advocates worry that the regulation will face legal challenges, and have urged Congress to pass a law instead. REUTERS

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10 Times Mark Hamill was the *best* part of 'Star Wars'

Mark Hamill, the man behind everyone's favorite space farmboy Luke Skywalker, is pretty heroic right here in the real world. EVA KIS

He may seem serious, but Mark Hamill is just planning his next punchline. GETTY IMAGES

Luke Skywalker was the beating heart of "Star Wars." 20TH CENTURY FOX

1 He inspired a generation

It wasn't the cool spaceships, weird aliens and cutting-edge special effects that made "Star Wars" iconic — it was Hamill's performance as Luke Skywalker. He took Luke from an ordinary, whiny farmboy to the man who saved the galaxy from the worst villain it's ever known.

2 He braves the wilds of Twitter

Twitter's brutal on celebs, but Mark Hamill's all about it — from the haters to the biggest fans, he'll retweet your memes, slide into your DMs, Like posts and troll himself harder you.

3 He likes to keep up with fans

Getting to meet a celebrity as big as Hamill isn't easy, but he still likes to find ways to mingle with fans, which he did by spending 2017's New York Comic Con photobombing people right on the convention floor.

4 He made the "Star Wars" universe more inclusive

Hamill broadened the "Star Wars" universe just a little more by answering a fan's question about Luke's sexuality on Twitter. "His sexuality is never directly addressed in the films," he told @kynoren. "Luke is whatever the audience wants him to be, so you can decide for yourself."

Still got it! GETTY IMAGES

5 He owns his mistakes

Most celebrities would cringe talking about the things they did early on in their careers. Not Hamill — a fan recently dug up a photo of him from a 1980s German television show. He was rocking a gold lame suit, which Hamill retweeted with a valuable lesson for all of us: "Thanks to the internet — NOTHING EVER GOES AWAY."

6 He's a friend to creatures big and small

A known lover of Carrie Fisher's French bulldog Gary Fisher, Hamill also stuck up for the ice beast that tried to eat him in "The Empire Strikes Back." "When filming [that] scene I was assured my lightsaber swipe toward camera (creature not on set) would simply singe fur 2 scare him off," he wrote about the wampa that had stashed Luke away for a snack in its cave. "Horrified to later see amputation & unnecessary cruelty — Wampa was HUNGRY (not EVIL) — Luke would never do this!"

7 He's not afraid to get political

Americans have never been more politically divided, so celebrities who choose to make political comments risk greater backlash than ever. Hamill hasn't hidden his opinion, whether it's calling out the accusations of Russian collusion and sexual harassment against President Trump, supporting transgender service members or backing the #MeToo movement.

He approves this message. GETTY IMAGES

8 He pays good tribute

Mark Hamill and Carrie Fisher weren't just space twins. They were also real-life friends for 40 years. To commemorate one year of her passing, Hamill tweeted photos of them together — and the perfect piece of fan art to capture her spirit.

9 He's not afraid to criticize his own franchise

Hamill didn't mince words when talking about "The Last Jedi" to Nightline: "When I read [Episode] 8 I told Rian, 'I fundamentally disagree with virtually everything you've decided about my character.'"

10 He's a fan, too

Hamill understands the power of fiction to inspire and bring people together, and recommends the things that bring him joy, from Fox's genre-bending cop series "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" to Oscar winner Jordan Peele's "Get Out." Once you're done with your most recent rewatch of the "Star Wars" saga, look to Hamill for what to watch next.

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Cut from 'Star Wars' but still going gangbusters

He's been Death Eater Amycus Carrow in "Harry Potter," Dagmer Cleftjaw in "Game of Thrones" and pretty much everyone else, too. PROVIDED

He's no longer in "The Last Jedi," but you know Ralph Ineson already.

GREGORY WAKEMAN
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

Ralph Ineson's been in the business for 25 years, so there's no doubt you'll recognize him. He's played memorable characters in both popular shows and films over the last 15 years, from "The Office" to "Game of Thrones" to "Harry Potter" to "Guardians of the Galaxy" to "Peaky Blinders."

Oh, yeah, and in "The Last Jedi," too. But you won't see that one.

"I could sit here and pretend that my character was integral to the whole 'Star Wars' universe," Ineson tells Metro. "But he was a bit of a plot device. They changed the rhythm of the way that the rebels got discovered, so he was cut out. It wouldn't have bothered the Academy."

It's that kind of easygoing nature that makes him so damn castable.

"I've been doing this for 25 years and am having a nice little period at the moment," he tells us.

"I've been doing this for 25 years and am having a nice little period at the moment."

"I know this guy from SOMEthing!" GETTY IMAGES

The 48-year-old's stunning performance in 2015's "The Witch" saw his stock rise exponentially. So much so that later in 2018 he will pop up in The Coen Brothers' "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs."

Not only is he scheduled to feature in Steven Spielberg's "Ready Player One," which will hit cinemas on March 29, but Ineson starred in the recently released "The Hurricane Heist."

"It ['Hurricane Heist'] is just a great big, fun, in-your-face romp, and I've not had the chance to rock my action-movie bad guy as a performance style," he tells us. "It was a part I had wanted to play since I was 11 years old holding a stick and running around. I was just trying to look hard, but I had a big smile on my face throughout."

So keep an eye peeled for Ineson in … just about anything you see these days.

Just not "The Last Jedi." Haha.

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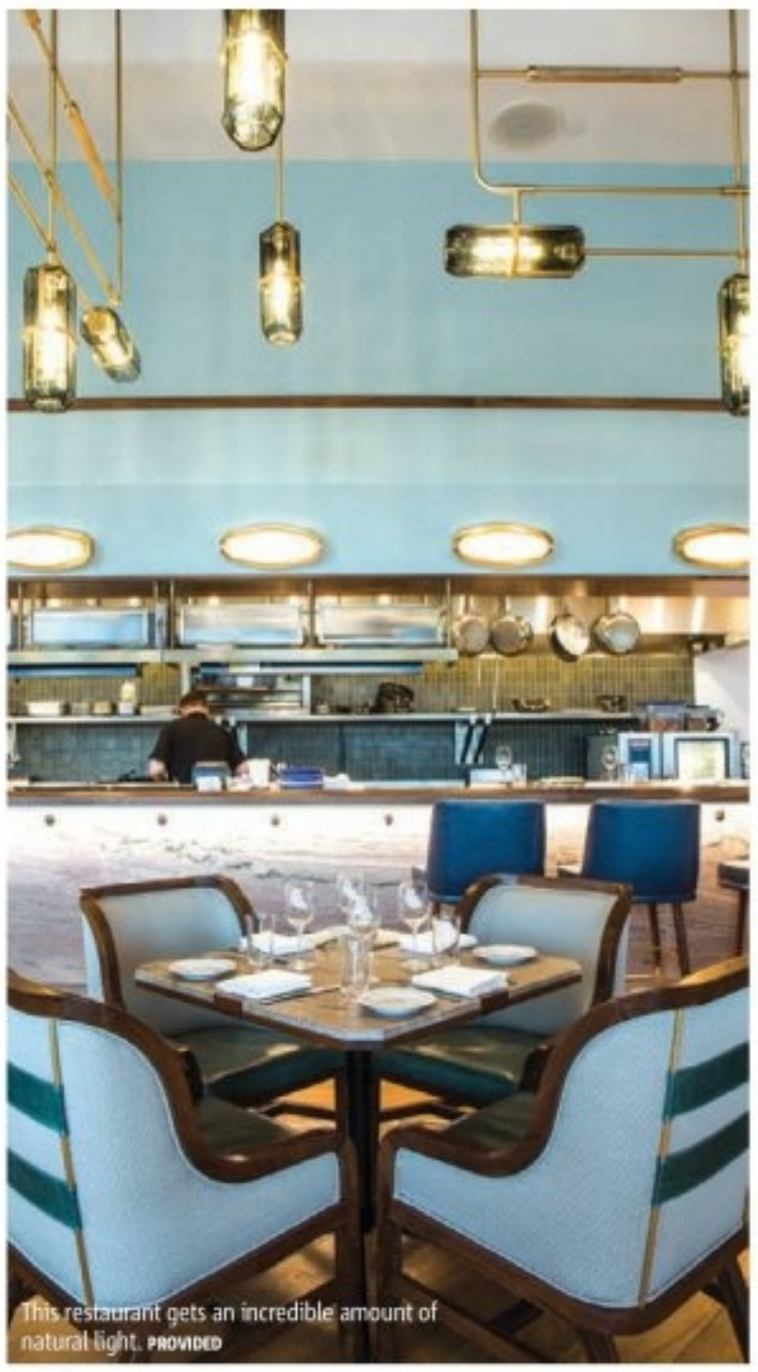

This restaurant gets an incredible amount of natural light. PROVIDED

What's for lunch: Walnut Street Cafe

Enjoy the sunshine while dining indoors.

JENNIFER LOGUE
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Lunch in Philadelphia should be savored, even if it's during a busy work week. If you're looking for a great place to dine in University City, Walnut Street Cafe is a sound bet.

Located at 2929 Walnut Street inside the FMC Tower at Cira Centre South, the chic space features floor-to-ceiling windows that bathe guests in sunshine, despite being indoors. And the view of the Schuylkill River can't be beat.

So what should you order? To start, you can't go wrong with their decadent butternut squash soup ($12). The butternut squash isn't pureed so much that the texture is lost, and it's topped with creme fraiche and pumpkin seeds. Word of warning: It's so good, you may never be able to eat butternut squash soup again elsewhere.

To pair with the soup, definitely order the recently launched Roasted Potato and Chive Parker House Rolls ($6). They come with an assortment of freshly whipped butters, but they're pretty satisfying on their own. Can't have soup without a healthy dose of doughy, carby goodness.

As far as a main course, there are so many ways you could go. The porchetta sandwich with arugula and provolone is divine and not overly filling ($12)

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This butternut squash soup will change your life. JENNIFER LOGUE

Order a side of beets. You'll thank us later. JENNIFER LOGUE

The roasted potato and chive Parker house rolls are a new menu item. JENNIFER LOGUE

— as long as you didn't load up on the rolls and opt for a side salad instead of fries. The ravioli with brown butter, ricotta and mint is also excellent and comes with two different portion options, depending on how hungry you are ($12 to $22). The fried porgy ($16) is a crowd favorite, with tempura, tartar sauce, cornichon and oregano. Think of it as upscale fish and chips.

If you're trying to avoid a food coma back at the office, you could always keep it super light and load up on veggies. The WSC salt roasted beets ($6) are phenomenal and quite refreshing, with pear, parsley and watercress. Pair that with some oysters from the raw bar ($18 for ½ dozen) for protein and you'll be whistling your way back to work.

Lunch is served at Walnut Street Cafe Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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Is stress contagious?

Do you feel like your partner's stress is stressing you out? You're not crazy. But you might be now. ISTOCK

According to a new study, spending time with a neurotic can really get inside your head.

KATE MOONEY
kate.mooney@metro.us

No matter how low-key you are, hang around a nervous Nellie and it's likely to put you on edge yourself.

Stress-by-proxy definitely feels real, at least anecdotally. But a new study suggests that being around an anxious type may actually alter your brain, inducing the same stress response that it would were the anxiety your own.

The research, published in Nature Neuroscience, examined how this transfer of stress plays out in pairs of mice. Jaideep Bains, Ph.D., and his team from the Cumming School of Medicine's Hotchkiss Brain Institute, University of Calgary, temporarily separated each pair, exposing one mouse to a mild stressor, and then reuniting it with its partner. Then they analyzed each mouse's CRH neurons, which govern the brain's response to stress, and found the activity was one and the same.

Why does this happen?

The researchers discovered that in response to stress, one mouse releases a kind of chemical alert signal that coaxes a similar cerebral response in the other.

The most basic explanation is that this occurs as a means for mammals to communicate with each other, which is obviously beneficial for survival. Bains explained that "the ability to sense another's emotional state is a key part of creating and building social bonds."

Similarly, the researchers found that the mice were also able to transfer calm vibes from one to the other, but this effect wasn't consistent for both male and female mice. After spending a little time with unstressed mice, stressed female mice were able to relax, and saw their brain's stress response diminish by half. But this didn't work for angsty male mice, who remained stuck on anxiety alert, even after interacting with chill vermin. Chalk it up to women being much more adaptive and better able to handle it, because we've always had to.

While this stress contagion effect hasn't exactly been tested out on humans, the researchers suspect they'd observe the same thing. "We readily communicate our stress to others, sometimes without even knowing it," noted Bains. "There is even evidence that some symptoms of stress can persist in family and loved ones of individuals who suffer from PTSD."

The next time you're feeling on edge, at least attempt to be sensitive of how your bad vibes might be rubbing off on others. Hopefully, we can all find the right person to spend our time with — someone with whom we can swap good cheer and angsty vibes in equal part. That would definitely be chill.

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Pick these 4 upsets on your bracket

You can't just pick the favorites. Upsets happen every year and picking the right ones can win your bracket.

With the understanding that an upset is a team seeded two seeds lower winning, in 26 of the last 33 seasons there have been between 10 and 16 upsets with an average of just over 12 upsets per tournament. There have been as few as four upsets (2007) and as many as 19 (2014) in recent memory but it would make sense to pick at least five, and probably 10 upsets to have a chance to win.

Here are four upsets we really like:

Mo Bamba's defense could lift Texas to an upset in Round 1. GETTY IMAGES

No. 10 Texas over No. 7 Nevada

Texas has one of the best players in college basketball in Mohamed Bamba. Bamba averages a double-double and blocks almost four shots per game. They are battle tested in the Big 12 and are one of the best defenses in the country. Nevada, meanwhile, has lost in the only top-25 battle they've had this year playing in the mid-major Mountain West. Texas has faced a ranked opponent 12 times (5-7).

No. 11 Loyola-Chicago over No. 6 Miami

Do you know what the MVC is? We had to look it up too — it's the Missouri Valley Conference and it has had historical success in the NCAA Tournament. Northern Iowa, Wichita State and Creighton each had a reign of terror in the conference making deep runs, and this year's Loyola-Chicago squad, making its first appearance in 33 years, could carry the torch. Miami got decimated by UNC in the ACC Tournament and isn't playing its best basketball. This is upset city.

No. 12 Davidson over No. 5 Kentucky

Davidson is always a March Madness darling and gets to start its run against the Wildcats on a (relatively) down season. Kentucky turns the ball over and is not a very good rebounding team. Davidson made an exciting run through the A-10 Tournament, ultimately upsetting top-seeded Rhode Island for the conference crown.

No. 13 College of Charleston over No. 4 Auburn

Charleston is good, not great, from top to bottom. But they are an excellent three-point shooting team. They play at a slow pace on offense and shoot better than 40 percent from long range. All of this means they are a variable team. If they can hit their shot and control the pace of the game, an upset is very possible. EVAN MACY

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA will sell the contents of the storage units listed below will be offer for sale by public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents (pursuant to 73 PS). The sales will take place on 3/15/18 at 11:00 AM at Storage King USA 5134 Lancaster Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19131, under the guidance of George Hartuk (31567) on behalf of the facilities management. Contents will be sold only to the highest bidder. A 10% buyer's premium will be charged and $100.00 (units larger than 150 sq ft will be more) cleaning deposits per unit. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted.
Chabree Rose Patrice Green #3035, Theordore A. Ellis II #3054,
Victoria P. Gardiner #1115, Michael M Ruley #2118, Belinda A. Rice #2194,
Dawn S. Hailey-Watkins #2289

NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Pennsylvania Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Prime Storage – 62nd St. 2231 S. 62nd St. Philadelphia, Pa 19142 intends to hold an auction of the goods stored in the following units in default for non-payment of rent. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.StorageStuff.bid ENDING on March 28, 2018 at 12pm. Unless otherwise stated the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings, boxes, misc.
#1114 Amara Bamba aka Bamba, Amara, #1116 Sandra Wilks aka Sandra P. Wilks, #416 Betty Samah, #1824 Brenda Nichols, #1415 Joycyn Beckford, #1701 Brenda McCrae, #402 Chanel Smith, #521 Dorothy Shatamon,, #624 Rose Yekeh, #817 Jeanise Anderson, #119 Vernon Coursey III
All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply; CASH ONLY. Contact manager at 215-337-2398 or www.StorageStuff.bid for details.

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Mikey Navarro (3115), Charles Norwood Jr. (2014), Amira Cornegay (1023), Jonathan Gonzalez (3222), Stephanie Lyons (3101), Louise Gleason (3139), John Nagele (3229), Will Hall (1128)

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Pennsylvania Self-Service Storage Facility Act, **Prime Storage - 62nd St located at 2231 62nd St Philadelphia, PA 19142** intends to hold an auction of the goods stored in the following units in default for non-payment of rent. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.StorageStuff.bid ENDING on **3.20.18** at 12pm. Unless otherwise stated the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings, boxes, misc.

#1512 James Ethridge, #1505 Boahn Troh,
#1113 Peter Brooks aka ABC Capital Investments

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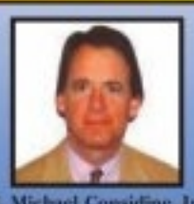
THE LAW FIRM THAT PUTS THE CLIENTS FIRST



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ARRIETA SIGNING MEANS PHILS' 'ERA OF SLOP' IS OVER

THE SPORTS PROFESSOR

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Jake Arrieta represents the first blue chip free agent signing in half a decade for the Phillies. GETTY IMAGES

Clay Buchholz. Aaron Harang. Jerome Williams. A.J. Burnett.

The Phillies' signing of ace starter Jake Arrieta to a three-year, $75 million contract means so much to the revitalization of this once-proud franchise. As much as anything, it means that the Era of Slop is over.

Over the past five years, the Phils have aimed to stay marginally relevant by signing every has-been and never-was who could climb atop the mound to a one-year, incentive-laden deal, praying that maybe, just maybe, the guy could find a second life here. None of them succeeded — unless you want to count Charlie Morton, who shredded his hamstring running to first base in April 2016 and wasn't heard from again until he wound up winning for the Astros in last year's World Series.

Anyway, Sunday evening, the new Phillies announced their presence with authority. In adding Arrieta, principle owner John S. Middleton and GM Matt Klentak instantly upgraded the franchise's 2018 status from "mildly interesting" to "must-watch compelling." The Phils may or may not contend in the National League this season, but all the ingredients are here for a baseball revival.

Arrieta joins a team similar to the rebuilding Phils of the mid-2000s. There is young talent all rising at the same time — Jorge Alfaro, J.P. Crawford, Rhys Hoskins, Nick Williams, Aaron Altherr and Scott Kingery. If three of them become stars, that's a hell of a nucleus.

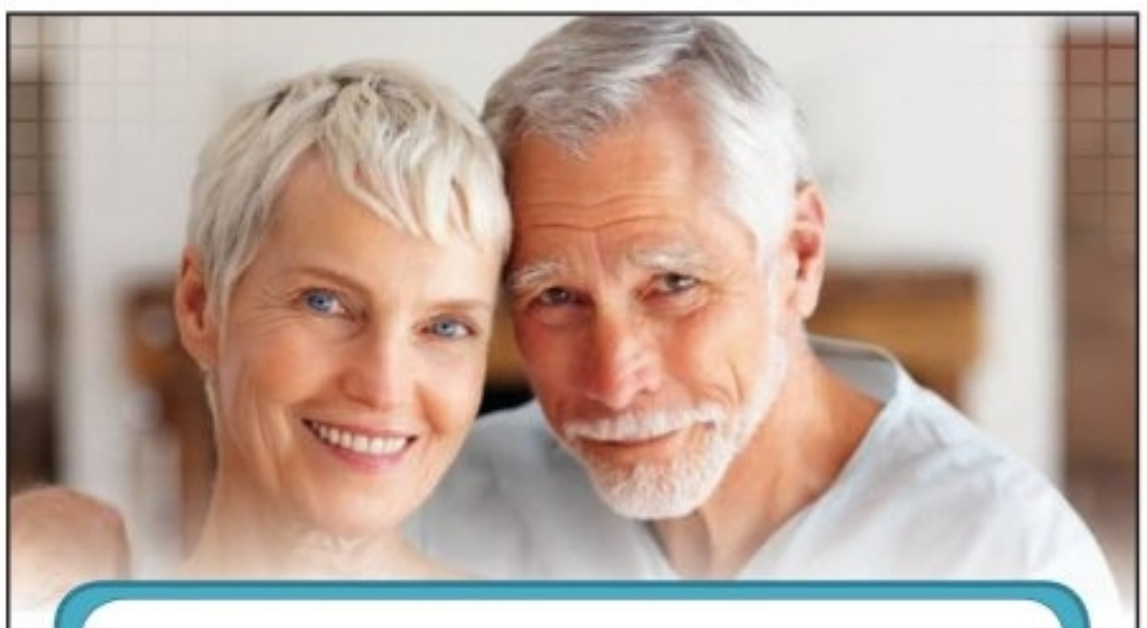
Carlos Santana adds a solid on-base threat to the lineup and veteran presence to the clubhouse. Laugh if you want, but I believe a team can win starting Odubel Herrera and Cesar Hernandez (although he could soon be traded). As for Maikel Franco, well, it's his last chance to prove he's not a bust.

The Phils' weak spot, of course, has been the rotation, which last year featured Aaron Nola, Jeremy Hellickson (another of those castoffs), Manny, Moe and Jack. Arrieta can't start 130 games himself, of course, but he and Nola form a pedigreed one-two force. If any one of the Bermuda Triangle Kids (Eickhoff-Pivetta-Velasquez) can find his way, and if ownership moves for a fourth starter, well, that's not bad in this era of five-inning starters followed by a parade from the bullpen.

Arrieta gives this team more than an ace who's averaged 18 wins and a 2.71 ERA the past three seasons. He's a smart, serious competitor who has won five games in the postseason. He can teach the kids how to be a professional.

There is concern that the Phils are getting him on the downswing; that the Arrieta who won the Cy Young in 2015 is already fading at age 32. While it is true that his overall stats were not dominant in 2017, consider this: Through June last season, coming off the 2016 World Series, Arrieta had a 3.67 ERA, and slash line against him of .260/.328/.439. He more than recovered in the second half of the season, with a 2.26 ERA, and slash line of .206/.276/.378. That's 14 starts of Cy Young numbers.

For that, the Phils committed to a multi-year deal with a starting pitcher for the first time since … Cliff Lee in 2011. No more Joaquin Benoit. Henderson Alvarez. Sean O'Sullivan.



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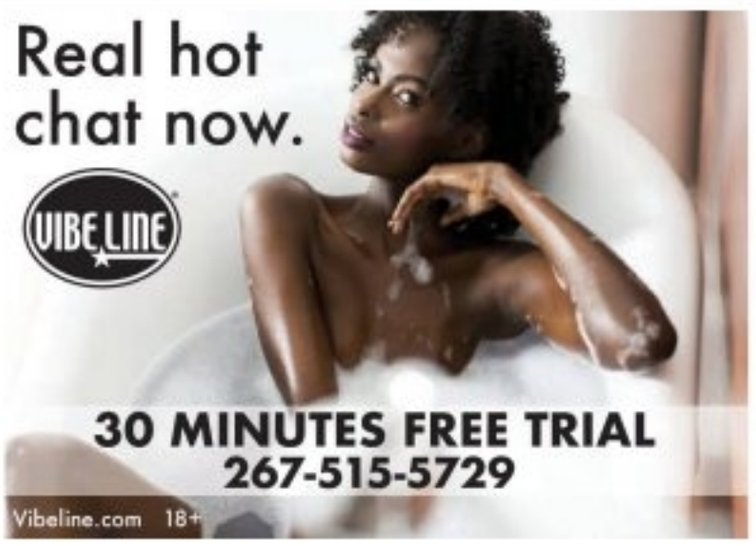

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Public Auction

1831 W Allegheny Ave on March 21st, 2018 at 12:30PM

The following self storage units will be sold to the highest bidder to satisfy the owner's lien for rent under 73 P.S. 1901 ET. Seq. Auction is with reserve. Devon Self Storage reserves the right to set minimum bids and to refuse bids. CASH ONLY. Contents must be removed within 24 hours. Auctioneer - Philip T. Cline PA License AU005596

Unit Name Contents

5150 Ezell, Darlene Household, Furniture • 4107 Gooding-James, Tyrita S Household, Clothing, Furniture • 2030 ALATORRE, RAQUEL Phoenix Groups Design - Build LLC Household, Clothing, Furniture • 2090 ALATORRE, RAQUEL Phoenix Groups Design - Build LLC Household, Clothing, Furniture • 5255 Brown, Khalif B Household, Clothing, Furniture • 5151 Butler, Tyrell L Household, Clothing, Furniture 5070 Cerra, Corey Household, Clothing, Furniture • 2043 Evans, Faith Household, Furniture • 2053 Evans-Sanchez, James Junior Household, Furniture • 1044 Francis, James M Commercial, Household, Clothing, Furniture • 4020 Francis, James M Phoenix Groups Design - Build LLC Office, Commercial • 5063 Harrell, Victor D Household, Furniture • 4048 Jordan, Tanikka R Household, Clothing 5053 Mcbride, Jeffery T Household, Clothing, Furniture • 5150 Mitchell, Lajuana Household, Furniture • 1014 Moses, Michelle S Household, Clothing, Furniture • 1047 PATRICK, GWEN R Household, Clothing, Furniture • 5218 Saulsbury, Daimbre P Clothing, Bags 5075 Smoller Jr, Tyrone F Household, Clothing, Furniture • 1087 Smith, Vincent L Appliances, Pool table 5070 Velez, Angelica M Household, Clothing, Furniture • 1054 Zepeda, Pavel Household

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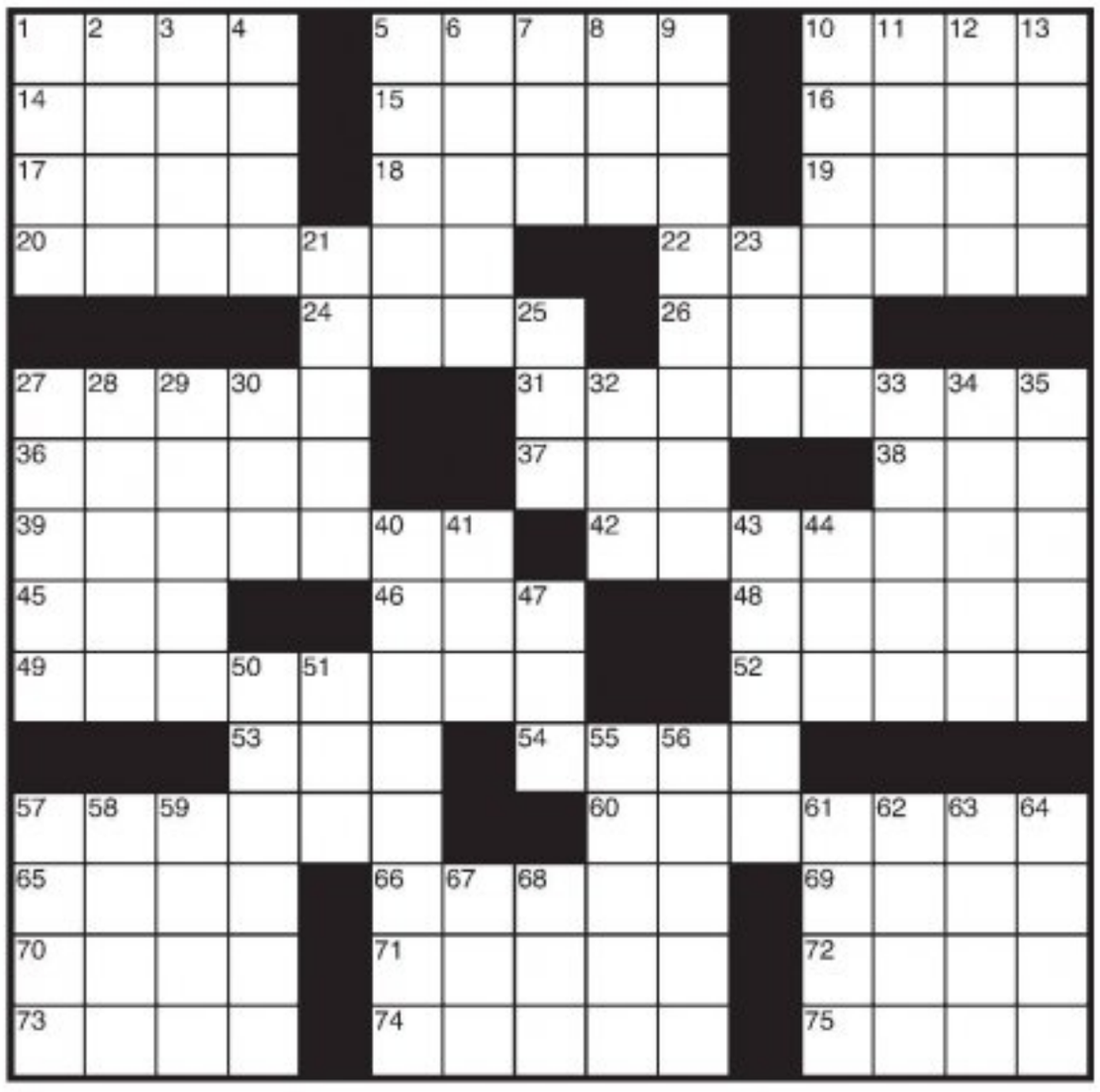
Across
1 Luau instruments
5 Fuzzy fruit
10 Did laps
14 Toy building block
15 Pond growth
16 Raspberry stem
17 Move toward
18 Metamorphic rock
19 -- Mae Brown
20 Somewhat firm (2 wds.)
22 Rang up
24 Masculine principle
26 Prune off
27 Courteous
31 Comes before
36 Organic acid
37 Airline to Stockholm
38 Ref's kin
39 Root vegetable
42 Main part
45 Omelet ingredient
46 Region of India
48 Memento
49 Went back into business
52 Day one
53 QB -- Manning
54 Fjord port
57 Trouble brewing
60 Survive (2 wds.)
65 Seized
66 Home with a dome
69 Big Dipper bear
70 Altar area
71 Hamburger extra
72 Malamute's load
73 Crisis point
74 Zany 7
5 Actress -- Sedgwick

DOWN
1 Arm bone
2 Hull bottom
3 Major Hoople's word
4 Painful
5 Vermicelli
6 Ms. DeGeneres
7 Ottoman official
8 Family pet
9 Unmindful
10 Abrasion
11 Mournful cry
12 Before
13 Middle Ages quaff
21 Chute fabric
23 Gold medal org.
25 Location technique: abbr.
27 Prank
28 Reflection
29 Zodiac sign
30 Those in office
32 "Norma --"
33 Slam --
34 Intro giver
35 Ran up bills
40 Spark plug's system
41 "The Raven" author
43 Kind of pigeon
44 Years on end
47 Tumult
50 Snuck a look
51 Chicago Loop trains
55 Fire
56 A little crazy
57 Idaho neighbor
58 Uh-uh
59 Sub -- (secretly)
61 Evening
62 Yves' airport
63 Net surfer
64 Mock fanfare (hyph.)
67 Dik-dik cousin
68 Found a perch



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easy

	1				8			7
			7	2				
		7	3	4	9			8
	3	5						2
8			9		3			1
9						7	8	
7			4	8	6	5		
				9	5			
4			2				1	

hard

	4	8		2	6		9	3
					9			
6			4	7		1		
8				1			2	
	1						3	
	2			4				1
		2		5	4			6
			7					
5	9		8	3		2	4	

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Take a moment to make personal changes that will lift your spirits and set you on a goal-oriented path. Ask someone you've helped in the past to reciprocate.

Taurus Stop questioning everything and start doing what needs to be done. It's what you do with your time that will make a difference in the end.

Gemini You can make personal improvements, but take care of your responsibilities before you do so. The order in which you do things will make a difference to others.

Cancer Consider your options before you make a fuss or get into a disagreement with someone. Making a point to cooperate and compromise will better serve you.

Leo Friendships, love and positive interactions with the people you deal with on a daily basis will help you get along with others. Join forces to bring positive change.

Virgo Be friendly but distant when dealing with peers. Tell them just enough without offering personal information. Being a good listener will give you an edge.

Libra You'll have good luck dealing with matters pertaining to your relationships with others. Speak up and share suggestions. Positive change is within reach. Romance is favored.

Scorpio Emotional matters will escalate when discussing personal matters with a friend. When faced with a stubborn individual, you are better off doing something creative.

Sagittarius Some of your old ideas will work well now. Changes to your home, lifestyle or living situation will encourage greater stability and financial security.

Capricorn Dealing with an older relative or the personal affairs of someone close to you will leave you thinking about your own records. Ease stress and unclutter your life.

Aquarius Share your emotions and memories with someone whom you feel will benefit from what you have to say. Words of wisdom will lead to a closer bond and wiser choices.

Pisces Update personal documents and make decisions regarding your investments. Don't miss out because of your inattention to detail. Stand up and be accountable. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

R	E	N	E	■	S	H	I	V	A	■	G	A	L	A
E	M	I	R	■	I	O	T	A	S	■	U	R	A	L
A	M	B	O	■	L	O	A	N	S	■	N	I	C	E
L	A	S	S	O	E	D	■	S	U	B	W	A	Y	■
■	■	■	I	N	N	S	■	■	M	O	A	■	■	■
D	E	V	O	U	T	■	T	R	I	P	L	E	T	■
O	M	E	N	S	■	S	W	A	N	■	E	A	R	P
L	O	G	■	■	A	P	I	N	G	■	■	T	A	I
E	T	A	S	■	B	A	S	K	■	E	L	E	C	T
■	E	N	T	R	U	S	T	■	P	L	E	N	T	Y
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■	T	A	T	A	M	I	■	A	W	A	R	D	E	D
J	O	S	E	■	E	G	Y	P	T	■	N	U	D	E
A	U	E	L	■	N	O	O	S	E	■	E	T	N	A
B	R	A	Y	■	T	R	U	E	R	■	R	Y	A	N

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